IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A connection scheduling method, operable in a node of a networked data processing system comprising a plurality of nodes, comprising the steps of:

determining if a job is available for scheduling;

determining, in response to said step of determining if said job is available, if a session is available, wherein said session is included in a pool of sessions, said pool of sessions having a preselected one of a set of priority levels corresponding to a priority level of said job and wherein said session effects an execution of said job;

creating a network connection to a target system for said execution of said job, wherein said target system is another node of the networked data processing system;

launching said session to effect said execution of said job, if said session is available; and

launching an error handling thread in response to an error condition, said error handling thread releasing said session.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein said session comprises a thread.

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of determining if said network connection is an existing network connection, and wherein said step of creating said network connection is performed if said network connection is not an existing network connection, and wherein said session is launched using said existing network connection if said network connection is an existing network connection such that said existing network connection supports multiple logical sessions.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of changing value of a job state from a first value to a second value in response to said launching of said error handling thread.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein said first value signals that said job is available for scheduling.

8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of retrying said steps of determining if a job is available for scheduling, determining if a session is available, and launching said session, in response to an error condition.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein said step of retrying is repeated until a predetermined time interval has elapsed.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9 further comprising the step of registering a callback method in response to an expiry of said predetermined time interval.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein said steps of determining if a job is available for scheduling, determining if a session is available, and launching said session are performed in response to an invoking of said callback method by said target system.

12-33. (Cancelled)